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## THE BEVERLEY FAMILY.

(CONTINUED.)

24. ROBERT<sup>4</sup> BEVERLEY (William<sup>3</sup>) of "Blandfield," Essex county, was born ——— and died 1800. When a boy he was sent, as were many other young Virginians, to a then celebrated school at Leeds, Yorkshire, England. It is possible that he also studied at Cambridge, as his eldest son, William was educated there. On his return to the colony he led a quiet life, being, apparently without the political ambitions common to most Virginians of large estates. The only office he appears to have held was that of one of the magistrates of his county, a position to which he was appointed in 1774. During the Revolution his sympathies were strongly with England, and though he committed no overt act, his unpopular opinions were well known. In 1775 he declined to accept a position as member of the County Committee of Safety, and declared that he would take no part in public business during the war. In 1780 he was, as Spencer Roane said later in a bitter letter, "in the infatuation of the county of Essex," elected to the Legislature, but did not take his seat. In 1787 the County Court of Essex recommended that Mr. Beverley be again placed on the bench. This created quite a stir, as Spencer Roane, on September 3, 1787, wrote a letter to the Governor vigorously opposing Beverley's reappointment.

The will of Robert Beverley of Blandfield, dated March 9, 1793, and proved in Essex, April 21, 1800. He gave his wife Maria, for her life, all his lands, houses and mills in Essex called Blandfield, Grays, Forest or Camberwell plantations, also the lands called Stokes and the land purchased from Jackson and Hackley, also 100 acres purchased from Thomas Waring. His wife is to choose out of his slaves in Essex twenty-two men and twenty-two women for agricultural purposes, and as many children under fifteen years of age as will make the whole number ninety four. Also lends her during life the stocks of horses, cattle, &c., and implements of husbandry on said plantations. To son William £6,000 sterling, or so much as should remain unpaid to him at the testators death with an interest of 6 per cent. on such balance. Executors are authorized to sell lands in King and Queen county, 3,000 acres land near Chester's Gap in Culpeper called Wakefield, containing about 4,000 acres; lands at the Thoroughfare Mountain called Stockwell, containing about 3,000 acres; all the land on the lower side of the road leading from Isaac Hinn's to Norman's Ford, and all land in Caroline county not devised to sons Peter and McKenzie Beverley, supposed to contain 6,000 acres; also all lots in the town of Staunton, and the tenements adjoining said town leased to Long and Brown, also all stocks of horses, cattle, &c., and crops on his Park plantation in King and Queen county, to be employed in discharging his debts and legacies. Has given his son Robert 1,050 acres out of his Elkwood plantation and sixty

negroes, and now gives him 500 acres more. To his son Robert his lots in Tappahannock and the reversion of all lands, &c., left his mother. To son Carter, when twenty-one years old, part of the Elkwood tract; To son Byrd, 2,438 acres, part of Elkwood, and also the tract of land in Culpeper called Heri, containing 808 acres. To son Munford, when twenty-one, 700 acres part of Elkwood, and also all his lands in the little fork of Culpeper, part of Elkwood contained in his Ursulana and Elkwood patents. To sons Peter Randolph and McKenzie Beverley, when twenty-one, 7,000 acres in the upper part of his Chase tract in Caroline county, and also his lot on Port Royal. To son Robert reversion of slaves left wife. Has already paid his daughters, Maria and Lucy Randolph their marriage portion. To daughters Anna Munford, Everlyne Byrd, Jane Bradshaw and Harriett Beverley, twenty-eight negroes each, sons Carter, Byrd, Munford, Peter R. and McKenzie Beverley forty slaves each, and remainder of slaves to be divided between his five sons. Slaves left to wife, and their increase, to go after her death to sons Robert, Carter, Byrd, Munford, P. R. and McKenzie. Stock, &c., on plantations given sons to go to said sons.

Codicil. September 1, 1795. As he has given son Carter part of Elkwood, with thirty slaves, stocks, &c., these to be considered part of his legacy.

Codicil. Februray 17, 1796. As daughter Ann Munford has married Francis Corbin and he has given her twenty-eight slaves he declares this shall be all she is entitled to.

Codicil. January 4, 1798. As he has given son Byrd part of Elkwood and 30 slaves, this to be considered part of his legacy.

Codicil. As daughter Evelyn Byrd has married George Lee, and he has given her part of the slaves destined for her, his executors are to make out the number, provided George Lee repays to the executors the money testator advanced to him. As testator has paid £5,000 of the £6,000 promised to his son William, directs the remainder be paid him. Daughters Jane and Harriet to receive £1,500 each in lieu of negroes or anything else devised them. Gives his park lands in King and Queen county to his sons Munford, Peter and McKenzie.

Codicil. November 18, 1799. Having given the use of his Park land to his wife he cancels the last codicil.

Codicil. Frees Harry, son of Milly, who has attended him for twenty-years, and gives him seventy acres in Essex. Executors to provide him with suitable implements.

Robert Beverley married Maria, daughter of Landon Carter of "Sabine Hall," Richmond county.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)